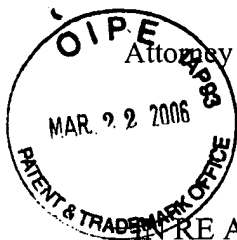


03-23-06

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Attorney Docket No.: AM-9230 (1630-131)

Express Mail No. EV 611361562 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF: Soo Young Choi, et al.

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 2813

SERIAL NO.: 10/829,016

§

§

§ EXAMINER:

FILED: April 20, 2002

§

Stephen W. Smoot

§

FOR: CONTROLLING THE PROPERTIES AND
UNIFORMITY OF A SILICON NITRIDE FILM
BY CONTROLLING THE FILM FORMING
PRECURSORS

§

§ ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

§

AM-9230

Date: March 22, 2006

AMENDMENT "B" UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



Sir:

This Amendment "B" is in reply to the Office Action mailed December 23, 2005, having a three month period for response by March 23, 2006.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 611361562 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

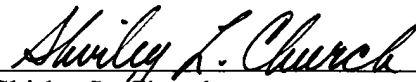
Date: March 22, 2006


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

Applicants do not believe that any additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this Response "B" Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111. However, in the event that any additional fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2635 of DUCKOR SPRADLING METZGER & WYNNE, in the amount of such fee.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley L. Church
Registration No. 31,858
Attorney for Applicant
(619) 231-3666 ext. 181

Correspondence Address:

Patent Counsel
Applied Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 450-A
Santa Clara, CA 95052



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Soo Young Choi et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/829,016

FILED: April 20, 2004

TITLE: CONTROLLING THE PROPERTIES AND
UNIFORMITY OF A SILICON NITRIDE
FILM BY CONTROLLING THE FILM
FORMING PRECURSORS

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Group Art Unit: 2813

Examiner: Steven W. Smoot

Attorney Docket No. AM-9230

March 22, 2006

AMENDMENT "B" UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

Sir:

This Amendment "B" is in response to the Office Action mailed December 23, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response of March 23, 2006.

Claims 1 - 23 are pending in the application. Claims 1 - 3, 5 - 21 and 23 are allowed. Claims 4 and 22 are rejected.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 611361562 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: March 22, 2006


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

The disclosure is objected to because of an informality which is in the form of a typographical error.

Claims 4 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Please amend the application as follows: